

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph 29 of the specification with the following amended paragraph.

Figure 4 shows an embodiment of a system 120 for reducing radiation dosage. System 120 includes x-ray source 14 at a focal point 60, a collimator 122, and detector array 18. An isometric view of an embodiment of collimator 122 is shown in Figure 5. Collimator 122 is contoured in a direction along a y-axis. Collimator 122 includes a plurality of cams 123 that are driven linearly along the z-axis to produce apertures of various sizes, such as widths. Referring back to Figure 4, aperture 124 is an example of an aperture formed by the cams 123 of collimator 122. Prior to scanning, the cams 123 are driven to a pre-set position by a linear drive mechanism 125 (Figure 5), such as a screw, to form a pre-set aperture between the cams. To change a size of the pre-set aperture during a scan, a piezo-electric drive mechanism 127 (Figure 5) is used to position the cams 123.